

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4716

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 4929

SECTO 228

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON RABAT SUMMIT

FOR THE ACTING SECRETARY

PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR SCOWCROFT

1. YOU SHOULD SEE THAT THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, DEPARTMENT OFFICERS AND OUR POSTS OVERSEAS HAVE THE FOLLOWING GUIDANCE AND STICK TO IT ON HOW TO HANDLE PRESS QUESTIONS AND DIPLOMATIC INQUIRIES CONCERNING THE RABAT SUMMIT AND ITS IMPACT ON NEGOTIATIONS. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SHOULD DRAW ON MY PREVIOUS PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF OUR POSITION, INCLUDING MY RESPONSE TO QUERY AT NEW DELHI PRESS CONFERENCE TODAY.

2. BEGIN GUIDANCE: OUR POSITION HAS NOT CHANGED. AS PRESIDENT FORD HAS SAID, "WE HAVE NOT HAD AN OPPROTUNITY YET TO MAKE ANY FIRM DECISION ON WHAT IMPACT THERE WILL BE FROM THAT ARAB DECISIONS. I CAN ONLY SAY THAT WE THINK IT IS OF MAXIMUM IMPORTANCE THAT CONTINUED MOVEMENT TOWARD PEACE ON A JUSTIFIABLE BASIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS VITAL TO THAT AREA OF THE WORLD, AND PROBABLY TO THE WORLD AS A WHOLE."

3. THE SECRETARY OF STATE IS STILL CONSIDERING A VISIT TO THE AREA IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HIS TALKS WITH ARAB AND ISRAELI LEADERS WOULD PROVIDE A CLEARER PICTURE OF WHAT WAS DECIDED AT RABAT AND OF THE BEST MEANS FOR PURSING NEGOTIATIONS. IT HAS BEEN OUR
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JUFGEMENT THAT STEP-BY-STEP NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING BETWEEN JORDAN

AND ISRAEL ON THE WEST BANK, OFFERED THE GREATEST HOPE OF
SUCESS AT THE PRESENT TIME. BUT IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT OUR
OBJECTIVE HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO HELP BRING ABOUT AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT
ON THE BASIS OF SC RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338, NOT A SEPERATE SETTLEMENT
OR SETTLEMENTS. THE ONLY QUESTION HAS BEEN HOW BEST TO
PROCEED IN ORDER TO REACH THIS OBJECTIVE,GIVEN THE POSITION OF
THOSE INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. THIS IS STILL THE QUESTION.
WE WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK THE ANSWER AND TO USE OUR BEST EFFORTS
TO GET NEGOTIATIONS STARTED ON THAT BASIS. END GUIDANCE.
KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED WHITE HOUSE.

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